Polit. Pamph. vol 9. (138)

MASTER STROWD HIS SPEECH in Parliament,

On Tuesday the third of *January*, in reply to the Articles of High Treason against himselfe, the Lord *Kimbolton*, Master *Pym*, Sir *Arthur Haselrigg*, Master *Hambden*, and Master *Holles*, Exhibited by his Majestie, wherein he cleareth himselfe concerning the same. 1641.

LONDON,
Printed in the yeare. 1642.

3 Jan. 1642

MASTER STROWD

HIS

SPEECH

in Parliament,

On Tuesday the third of January, in reply to the Articles of High Treason against himselfe, the Lord Kingston, Master Pym, Sir Arthur Haslerigg, Master Hampden, Master Hollis, [illegible] his Majesty [illegible] herein he clearely himselfe [illegible] the same (24).

[illegible]

[illegible]

Printed in the yeare [illegible]

Master Strowd his Speech in Parliament on *Tuesday* the third of *January* 1642.

Master Speaker.

IT is the saying of the Wise man even of a King, *Solomon* the wisest of all Kings that ever raigned in this earth, that in the countenance of the King is life and death, like to the sonne which by the sending forth of his glorious beames upon the fruits of the earth nourisheth, and causeth the same to fructifie and grow, gives vigor and strength to all the creatures that lives in and upon the same, and by withdrawing his light being over shaddowed with clouds keepes back the growing and flourishing of the creature, yea and by continuance in that his hidden motion procureth at last the utter withering and perishing thereof.

His gracious Majesty, who is our sonne and comforter at such time as his glorious beames of grace and favour replex upon

his good Subjects, they increase & grow intire & tender affection towards his Majesty, that no distempers or troubles whatsoever can separate betweene him and them. But this our sonne being over-shadowed with clouds, and mists of discontent and disfavour towards his People, causeth them to wander in obscurity and darkenesse, even ready to faint and dispaire of any designe they take in hand, for the safety and security of his Majesty and his Kingdomes, yea and strikes them as it were with death and utter distruction.

Master Speaker.

I perswade my selfe our gracious Soveraigne in his owne natural! disposition, is altogether bright and comfortable, and that never causeth or retracts to himselfe any discontent towards his loving Subjects, but by suggestion information, and instigation, of malignant and disaffected spirrits, both to the tranquillity and peace of his Majesty and the whole state of this Kingdome.

It is *Master Speaker* the onely pollicy of desparate and evill minded persons, that have beene the onely troublers of our Israell finding themselves in danger (by calling of them to an accompt for their misdeeds and misdemeanours) to be brought to punishment for the same, to cast aspersions

ſions upon thoſe faithfull councellours of the King and State, which ſtrive to prevent their malicious and wicked deſignes, to overthrow and deſtroy the ſame.

It cannot Sir enter into my thoughts that ever his Maieſtie of him ſelfe could haue gone about to interrupt and hinder, the happie proceedings of this his greate and wiſe counſells whoſe endeaveours are altogether to maintaine the honour and dignitie, the peace and ſafetie of his Royall Maieſtie and his Kingdomes, by removeing ſuch impediments and hinderances as haue hitherto letted the ſame and the eſtabliſhing of true religion in this Church Congruent to the doctrine of Chriſt and his Apoſtles ſett downe and manifeſted in ſacret writt, by accuſeing and impeaching the members thereof of high treaſon, as if they whoſe hearts are united to their lawfull ſoveraigne, and by nature bound to the defence and ſecuritie of their Contrie by Covenant with God tyed to the maintenance of his true religion ſhould be the betrayers and deſtroyers of all together.

Theſe Artickles Maſter Speaker exhibted againſt my ſelfe and the other gentelmen are I conceive not really intended againſt vs as if we were actually guiltie of the ſame but onely to procure our abſence from this honourable houſe that wee may not

haue our free votes in the triall of the 12. Bishops accused by whom I verily beleiue were these Artickles drawne and onely by their aduice and such as favour their cause were exhibited and I perswade my selfe, may we be apprehended and taken from this house upon the same our Tryall, will be by force immediatly, to cutt us of although his Majestie no other-wise conceives and is really minded we should legally be proceeded against, of such powerfullnes, are those persons that were the Authors of them.

Master Sheaker the Artikles if actually guiltie of are many of them, I confesse high treason as to endeavour to subuert the fundamentall lawes to introduce an Arbitrary for me of government to the state actually to levi warr against the King to procure forraigne aide to inuade this Land and the like is Treason I need not speake much to cleare my selfe of these crimes I hope this honourable house will make such a favorable construction of all my actions since I have had the honour to sitt in the same, that it will be manifest to all the world that they have been far with out the compasse of treason either against my King or Country.

And Master Speaker if it shall be conceived by this honourable assembly, as learnedly it hath already beene deluded by

that

that worthy Gentleman that last spake, that as members of a Parliament, to agree with the same in all their votes, for the punishment of delinquents, setling of religion, securing of their owne persons by a guard desiring assistance of our brethren in *Scotland*, to suppresse the rebellion in *Ireland* be Treason, then I thinke we are all guilty of these Articles, otherwise are wee cleere and innocent of the same.

Master Speaker, I humbly desire of this honourable House, that I may have a speedy tryall upon the same, that as I shall bee found guilty by the Iudgement of this high Court, I may know my sentence, which I shall willingly submit unto; be it to my condemnation, or preservation, wishing and praying with all my heart, that none of these evill and malicious designes in agitation against the Parliament, by any malignant persons whatsoever may take effect to hinder the blessed proceedings thereof, but that you may goe one with courage and cheerfulnes, to settle all things aright, both in Church and State, for the government theteof in perpetuall peace & tranquillity.

FINIS.

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FINIS.